

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 26389 181154Z

15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 OMB-01 /072 W

----- 082786

R 181057Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5779

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 26389

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION BANGKOK FROM UDORN 18 DEC 75 REPEATED
FOR YOUR INFORMATITN:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 2061

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, TH

SUBJECT: UDORN OFFICIALS DISCUSS VIETNAMESE "THREAT"

SUMMARY: AT A MEETING DEC. 15, CHAIRED BY GOVERNOR, LOCAL
OFFICIALS AND BUSINESS LEADERS DISCUSSED INTERNAL AND
EXTERNAL THREATS TO THAILAND AND THE NEED TO ORGANIZE
TO COMBAT THEM. ALTHOUGH BROAD RANGE OF PROBLEMS WAS
DISCUSSED, FOCUS WAS ON LOCAL VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY WHICH
WAS DEPICTED AS SUBVERSIVE FORCE LINKED WITH WIDE VARIETY
OF DISRUPTIVE ELEMENTS IN THE NORTHEAST. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION OBTAINED BY CONSULATE POLITICAL
ASSISTANT, AT A MEETING DEC. 15 CHAIRED BY UDORN GOVERNOR
VICHIE WETSAWAN, LOCAL OFFICIALS AND BUSINESS LEADERS
EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER RECENT RORDER CONFLICTS, INCREASED
INSURGENT ACTIVITY AND CIVIL DISTURBANCES. MEETING WAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 26389 181154Z

APPARENTLY PROMPTED

BY REPORTS THAT A NUMBER OF LEADING UDORN BUSINESSMEN HAD BEGUN TO TRANSFER THEIR SAVINGS TO FOREIGN BANKS IN ANTICIPATION OF A DETERIORATING SITUATION.

2. GOVERNOR VICHIEU, ADDRESSING THE GROUP OF ABOUT 80, REPORTEDLY BEGAN BY STRESSING THE NEED TO ORGANIZE TO DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS, AND CRITICIZED THOSE WHO MIGHT PROPOSE TO RUN FROM THEM. HE THEN LAUNCHED INTO A LENGTHY SPEECH ON WHAT HE CONSIDERED THE GREATEST THREAT, THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY. AFTER EXTOLLING VIETNAMESE QUALITIES OF AGGRESSIVENESS, DILIGENCE, AND INTELLIGENCE, GOVERNOR EMPHASIZED THAT THE VIETNAMESE SHOULD NOT BE TRUSTED AS THEY REMAINED LOYAL TO HANOI. HE FURTHER CHARGED THAT LOCAL VIETNAMESE WERE LINKED TO VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE PROBLEMS FACING UDORN. ACCORDING TO VICHIEU, STUDENT ACTIVISTS AND LABOR AGITATORS AS WELL AS THAI INSURGENTS ALL RECEIVED SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE LOCAL VIETNAMESE.

3. THE GOVERNORS PROPOSAL THAT A GROUP BE ORGANIZED IN UDORN TO MONITOR LOCAL VIETNAMESE WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSED. (NOTE: TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN NO SERIOUS ANTI-VIETNAMESE ACTIVITY IN UDORN OF THE SORT THAT HAS OCCURRED IN NONG KHAI AND NKP.) THE GROUP AGREED TO MEET AGAIN TO DEVELOP A MORE FORMAL ORGANIZATION.

4. COMMENT: A NUMBER OF BUSINESS LEADERS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING ARE KNOWN TO HAVE STRONG TIES WITH NAWAPHON. THERE APPEARS TO BE AN ATTEMPT TO USE THE VIETNAMESE ISSUE TO RALLY LOCAL LEADERS TO UNITE IN SUPPRESSING DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITY OF ANY KIND. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE GOVERNOR IN CHAIRING THE MEETING WAS ACTING ON HIS OWN OR IN RESPONSE TO POLICY FORMULATED AT A HIGHER LEVEL. GOVERNOR VICHIEU'S PREVIOUS TOUR WAS AS GOVERNOR OF NAKHON PHANOM, ALSO A COMMUNITY WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE. HAMILTON

UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MEETINGS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO26389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750440-0200
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751229/aaaaazne.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UDORN OFFICIALS DISCUSS VIETNAMESE "THREAT" SUMMARY: AT A MEETING DEC. 15, CHAIRED BY GOVERNOR, LOCAL
TAGS: PINS, PINT, TH, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006